(b) if so, the action taken to protect defence land from encroachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action has been initiated by the authorities concerned under Cantonments Act, 1924 as well as Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Comprehensive approach to National Security Problems

1218. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the long term comprehensive approach proposed to the national security problems of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): Government continually assess possible threats to national security and ensure the maintenance of adequate defence preparedness.

Decision Making Committee on defence matters

1219. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an apex Committee for decision making on defence matters;

(b) if so, constitution thereof; and

(c) in which year this Committee was constituted and the number of times it has met since its constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (c) The National Security Council was constituted on 24th August, 1990, under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The Ministers of Defence, Finance, Home Affairs and External Affairs are Members of this Council. It is a forum to evolve an integrated approach to national security policy having regard to the developing external situation in the political, military and economic fields as well as the prevailing domestic situation. It met on 5th October, 1990.

भारतीय सेना में अधिकारियों तथा अन्य कार्मिकों का अनुपात

1220. **श्री चीमनभाई हरीभाई शुक्ला:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) भारतीय सेना में विभिन्न श्रेणियों के अधिकारियों तथा अन्य कार्मिकों का अनुपात क्या है;

(ख) क्या अधिकारियों और कार्मिकों के मौजूदा अनुपात में संशोधन करने की आवश्यकता है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो भारतीय सेना की तुलना में कुछ पश्चिमी देशों की रक्षा सेवाओं में अधिकारियों और कार्मिकों का श्रेणी-वार अनुपात क्या है?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एन०वी०एन० सोमू): (क) भारतीय सेना में अफसरों और कार्मिकों का समग्र अनुपात 1:23 है।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Blackmarketing of petrol by armed forces' drivers

1221. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'For cheaper petrol, contact Government Armed forces drivers' which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 2nd January, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to prevent blackmarketing and pilferage of petrol; and

(c) if no steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In the Armed Forces, a fool-proof mechanism exists to check theft of Petrol which is being enforced strictly. In some stray cases of theft of Petrol which were detected, deterrant actions were taken against the delinquents. Enquiries, so far